AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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WHOLE NO. 1168 — WILLIAM GREEN, President — WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1933 — FRANK MORRISON, Secretary — VOL. 23, NO. 26

Look not mournfully into the past; it comes not back again. Wisely improve the present; it is thine.—Longfellow.

Editorials

Martin's Brainstorm on Child Labor

Lawyers everywhere, from Chief Justice Hughes of the United States Supreme Court down to the humblest tyro lately graduated from law school, are bowed in shame or angered beyond expression by the tirade in support of child labor launched in his opening address to the American Bar Association convention by its president, Clarence E. Martin. At the Federal Child Labor Amendment, according to press reports, he shrieked:

"It is a communistic effort to nationalize children, making them primarily responsible to the Government instead of to their parents. It strikes at the home. It appears to be a definite, positive plan to destroy the Republic and substitute a social democracy."

The Child Labor Amendment, which is supported wholeheartedly by hundreds of great publications, by practically all women's organizations and by welfare organizations everywhere, by the entire organized labor movement, by President Roosevelt and a long list of his predecessors, simply confers upon Congress the right to regulate, limit and prohibit the employment of persons under 18 years of age for the purpose of preventing un-American employers from turning the tender bodies and minds of our future citizens into interest coupons and dividend checks.

And this really noble policy, according to the President of the American Bar Association, is "a communistic effort to nationalize children," "strikes at the home," and aims to "destroy the Republic."

All thinking people will ask whether a mind can make so foul a declaration as this and be sane.

Judge Fisher's Injunction Decision

Another jurist, Judge Harry M. Fisher of the Cook County, Illinois, Circuit Court, has taken the advanced stand initiated in Wisconsin and New York, in holding that employers seeking labor and picketing injunctions must come into court with "clean hands" if they hope for successful issue to their suits.

"Clean hands" they have not, Judge Fisher ruled in denying an injunction to La Mode Garment Company, Inc., against the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, when they are paying their employes wages so low, in this case $6 weekly for 52 hours' work, as to constitute an incitement of the workers to the acts complained of. Judge Fisher said:

"If the injunctions asked in such cases are simply corrective measures provided by law for the control of those who resort to violence or tortious acts, the question whether the unfair dealings of employers are connected with the matters sought to be enjoined might become pertinent, but in the jurisdiction of the court to issue such injunctions rests solely on the ground that its purpose is not the restraint of the evil doer, but the protection of property and business.

"Clearly, if such grounds as inequitable in respect to the very business he seeks to protect as to naturally and directly cause the trouble he complains of, how can he be heard to say that his wrongdoing is not connected with the subject matter of his suit?"

A few more such decisions from judges as courageous and social-minded as Justice Fisher will put a check to injunction procedures in the State courts brought by callous employers bent only on strike-breaking. Probably, however, cowardly and venal judges will be found to obey the will of rich employers until they are forbidden to use the injunction to browbeat workers, as the Federal courts now are restrained by the Norris-LaGuardia anti-injunction law.

Federal Funds to Employ Jobless Teachers To Educate Illiterates Endorsed by Green

Washington—Enthusiastic commendation of the action of Harry L. Hopkins, Federal Emergency Relief Administrator, in making Federal funds available to pay work relief wages to unemployed teachers competent to teach adults to read and write English was expressed by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor.

"If the twelve million illiterates in the United States were able to read," Mr. Green said, "they could go to work to learn through recent newspaper announcements that the Federal Government is at last ready to make a determined effort to meet their problem.

"The announcement of the Federal Relief Administration that it is prepared to pay work relief wages to unemployed teachers competent to teach adults unable to read and write English marks an important step forward, not only in providing a creative form of employment for a considerable number of the 80,000 idle teachers, but also provides a basis for a thoroughgoing program of adult education in America.

"Each day it becomes increasingly clear that the program of the Federation of economic reconstruction, sponsored by the new administration depends upon a program of continuing education for the whole citizenship.

"The education of the adult worker, both as a citizen and as a consumer, is imperative, if he is to do his part in restoring the lasting prosperity of well-being to the people of this country.

"This action on the part of the Relief Administration implies a continuing program of education, after the first needs of adult literacy has been attained.

"Because these twelve million illiterates cannot give voice to their own needs it is most appropriate that the American labor movement should be represented by the American Federation of Labor, should speak in their behalf.

"If they could state their desires in writing, they would ask for instruction which would enable them to understand their position as wage earners and as citizens. Because they are inarticulate, unskilled to deny them this broader opportunity for education.

"In making provision for their educational needs at this time, we must at the same time lay the foundation for an integrated system of education, providing for their cultural as well as their vocational needs. Only in the shorter working day, this combination has become indispensable."

Labor's Rights Fully Protected In Automobile Code, Green Says

A. F. of L. President Declares the Code Does Not Qualify the Right to Organize and Bargain Collectively Guaranteed in the Recovery Act—Employes Cannot Be Discharged for Joining Unions—An NRA Board With Labor Representation Will Adjust Complaints Regarding Violation of Labor Provisions.

Washington.—William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, issued an emphatic and positive denial that the code for the automobile manufacturing industry qualifies in the least degree the provisions of the National Industrial Recovery Act which guarantee the right of the workers to organize in bona fide unions without interference by employers and uses collective bargaining as an instrument to secure adequate wages, reasonable hours, and other work conditions designed to maintain the same living standards.

Mr. Green's denial was contained in a telegram to William Collins, general organizer of the A. F. of L., who has charge of organizing automobile workers in Detroit.

The telegram revealed that to enforce the automobile code an NRA board with labor representation will be established which will promptly investigate and adjudicate all complaints regarding the violation of labor provisions.

The text of Mr. Green's telegram to Collins follows:

Legal Right to Join Union

"No sentence or paragraph is incorporated in the Automobile code which in any way modifies, qualifies or changes Section 7 (a), which provides that workers may organize, bargain collectively and be represented by men of their own choosing without interference or restraint from employers.

"Any statement to the contrary is false.

"Section 7 is now a part of the Automobile code of fair practice, consequently the discharge of workers for joining a union would be a violation of this code and would subject those who violate it to severe penalties.

"Where the automobile workers organize into trade unions they have a perfect right to utilize said organization in protecting their members against discrimination and against being discharged because of affiliation with a local union.

"The Automobile code agreed upon provides that employers shall observe all the provisions of Section 7 (a) and that nothing contained in the code modifies, changes or qualifies this section of the act.

Board to Adjust Complaints

"Furthermore, the Labor Advisory Committee has been assured by General Johnson, Administrator of the Industrial Recovery Act, that he will set up an administrative body clothed with authority to require observance of codes and a board will be appointed for the automobile industry upon which labor will be represented, and said board will be authorized to consider and act upon complaints of violations and of non-enforcement of code provisions.

"This automobile workers through their chosen representatives can present to this board for the automobile industry complaints which they may feel presented, complaints of code violations and appeals for full observance of all provisions of the code, including Section 7, guaranteeing the right to organize and to bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing.

"Let no one deceive automobile workers by misrepresentation or false statements.

"Their right to organize has been clearly established.

"The decision as to whether they will avail themselves of the right to organize rests entirely with the automobile workers.

"The appeal to them to unite with labor, to organize, to bargain collectively, and we assure them that the American Federation of Labor will protect them in the exercise of their right to organize into trade unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor."

POTTERY WORKERS' UNION GROWING IN ALL SECTIONS

East Liverpool, O.—Membership is leaping ahead and applications for charters are flooding headquarters of the National Brotherhood of Operative Potters, according to James M. Duffy, president, and requests are being taken care of by the employes hired as rapidly as possible. Among listed accomplishments are the following:

Charter issued to 200 pottery workers at Richmond, Calif., reorganized, with 100 per cent membership in prospect.

Preliminary steps taken to organize sanitary workers at Milbrae, Calif.

Employes of Vernon Mead pottery at Los Angeles organizing.

Two new local organized in East Liverpool, with headquarters crowded by every category of employe of nearby potteries and tile manufacturers.

The new local organized at Tiffin, Ohio, less than a month ago, now has 194 members. Tiffin is the location of the Standard Sanitary Manufacturing Company, which operates a large plant there.

Pacific Electric Company Deserts Anti-Union Policy

Richmond, Calif. — Confronted with the militant organizing campaign being carried on by the trade union movement of California plus the provision of the National Industrial Recovery Act guaranteeing the right of the workers to organize without interference from employers, the Pacific Electric Company, which has long maintained a bitter antiunion policy in Los Angeles County, has changed its line 180 degrees and now organized labor and withdrawn all barriers to the unionization of the concern's members, according to a statement by D. W. Pontius, president of the company.

At a meeting of the employes, Mr. Pontius said:

"The established and recognized policy of the Pacific Electric Railway Company for many years has been to require employes to refrain from joining the interests of organized labor. The discharged men were Patrick J. Dacey of the Quarrymen's local and Patrick J. Malone of the Stone Cutters' Union.

"The company officials claimed the men were laid off because of slack work—Dacey because he lived out of town, and Malone because he was a single man. The union workers placed but little reliance in these excuses and believed the officials were discharged because of their union activities. The company returned the men to their jobs at the end of a one-day strike.

Anti-Picketing and Boycott Laws Suspended in Colorado

Denver, Colo.—The recent special session of the Colorado Legislature suspended for two years Colorado's anti-picketing and boycott laws. The bill also repealed for the same two-year period the anti-blacklisting and anti-trust laws of the State.

These laws were originally enacted in an attempt to hamstring the effective application of the union policy of refusing to patronize concerns well known for their outspoken and consistent opposition to trade union living standards.

The legislature believed the laws were a barrier in the way of the National Recovery program and temporarily suspended them. It is the hope of the organized labor movement of the State that the suspension will result in the absolute repeal of these obnoxious anti-labor statutes.

Central Labor and Building Trades Councils Plan Merger

Richmond, Calif.—The Central Labor Council and the Building Trades Council at a joint meeting here decided to merge the two groups in the interest of more effective trade union work. The consolidated councils will qualify as the central body for all local unions both in the building trades and the miscellaneous crafts.

Quarry Company Restores Jobs to Union Officials

Milford, Conn.—Fifty Milford union stone cutters declared a strike on Hasbell & Sons Company quarry because of the alleged dismissal of the presidents of the Quarrymen's and Stone Cutters' Unions for their activities in the interests of organized labor. The discharged men were Patrick J. Dacey of the Quarrymen's local and Patrick J. Malone of the Stone Cutters' Union.

The company officials claimed the men were laid off because of slack work—Dacey because he lived out of town, and Malone because he was a single man. The union workers placed but little reliance in these excuses and believed the officials were discharged because of their union activities. The company returned the men to their jobs at the end of a one-day strike.

50 NEW TRADE UNIONS ORGANIZED IN FLORIDA

Miami, Fla.—Under the protection of the labor section of the National Recovery Act, guaranteeing the right of the workers to organize into unions or their own choosing without interference from employers, plus the militant organizing campaign conducted by the Florida State Federation of Labor, 50 new local unions have been organized in Florida, according to Wendell C. Heaton, president of the Federation.

In addition the membership of the older local unions has materially increased.

On his return from a tour of the State Mr. Heaton said he found the workers eager to secure the benefits of the trade union movement.

"We are going to keep up this campaign," he declared, "until there is no longer any necessity for it. It is the biggest drive ever made by organized workers of Florida. It is different from other movements of the kind and will benefit employers as well as workers, largely because the National Recovery Act codes practically do away with the possibility of disputes over hours and wages.

"It is an appeal for the workers to help themselves under the Recovery Act and to put themselves in position to help their employers.

"One of a number of ways in which they can help employers is by policing a keeping check on unscrupulous competitors to help enforce the National Recovery Act. I think labor can be of inestimable value in enforcing the act because it is in a position to do it."

Jackson Central Body Pilots Workers to Trade Unionism

Jackson, Mich.—A special committee of four members was appointed by the Jackson Federation of Labor to aid in putting in their proper organization the vast army of workers who seek to enroll themselves in the trade union movement. The committee consists of James G. Henley, Winn Stevens, Frank C. Keyes, Frank C. Leutz and Joseph Ashmore.

The Federation still conducts its labor relief kitchen, serving around 200 meals per week. The grand total of meals served by the kitchen since its establishment is 462,774.

Labor's Rights Fully Protected In Automobile Code, Green Says

(Continued from page 1)

Washington.—Unswerving support of the National Recovery Act by every person in the United States was urged by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in a radio address here over National Broadcasting Company's network.

He stressed the fact that the purpose of the act was to put millions of jobless back to work and raise mass purchasing power to a level which was being accomplished by the President's voluntary agreement and the various fair competition codes.

Mr. Green said, in part:

"The law was passed by Congress for the purpose of dealing with a great emergency. Unemployment had constantly increased over a period of years until more than twelve million men had been forced into idleness. Approximately sixty million people were seriously affected, all of them suffering in varying degrees from the effects of widespread, continuous unemployment.

"The purpose of the act was not only to increase work opportunities through a reduction in hours, but also to increase buying power through increases in wages.

Drive On Unemployment

"It was clearly the purpose and intention of the sponsors of this legislation, as well as Congress, to launch a great offensive along a nation-wide front upon the distressing unemployment situation which prevailed throughout the country through the operation and application of the provisions of the industrial recovery law.

"Even a superficial examination of the act reveals in the most clear and convincing manner, the broad, comprehensive powers vested in the Federal Government to formulate industrial codes of fair practice for all lines of industry. Unemployment is overcome so that the number of people who are suffering from enforced idleness is reduced to a minimum and if buying power is increased so that the consumers' demand for manufactured goods will be created corresponding with industrial facilities of production the act will prove to be a complete success.

"There is one fact in this whole economic procedure which stands out boldly. It is the fact that action is a reality and that the horrors and evils of unemployment are being attacked in a most vigorous and uncompromising way.

Red Tape Abolished

"Much red tape is being cast aside in the straight drive which is being made under the direction of a common purpose and men and women identified with the administration of the law are working with superhuman zeal, inspired, as it seems, by the urgency and distressing human condition.

"The people of the nation had been praying for action, the kind of action that is being taken now—action they wanted something done. They demanded that governmental machinery be speeded up, that it be a remedy for the economic ills from which they suffered.

"Never before in the history of any nation has there been such a great movement embarked upon an economic adventure as fascinating and far-reaching as this one, under the inspiration of the Industrial Recovery Act, upon which our own Government has embarked.

"Here Government, through a partnership with industry and labor, is doing what industry refused to do separately and of itself. For years labor has urged and pleaded that hours of labor be shortened and additional work opportunities be created as the only way by which the slack of unemployment could be taken up.

"The Government is doing exactly that very thing. Through the establishment of industrial codes of fair practice work is being allocated. A wider distribution of the amount of work available is being made through a reduction in the hours of labor. For obvious reasons wages must be increased as hours of labor are reduced. Otherwise the balance between purchasing and buying power would be destroyed.

Reduce Hours, Raise Wages

"We may not be fully satisfied with all that has thus far been accomplished. I know there are still millions who are unemployed and I know that there are millions who are suffering as a result of unemployment.

"It is clearly the obligation of the Government to go forward with its industrial recovery program reducing the hours of labor to the point where, in operating, work opportunities will be further created so that all who are willing and able to work may be accorded the privilege of doing so.

"With such reduction in hours wages must be lifted to a higher level so that purchasing power will be increased and thus a steady flow of manufactured goods from the point of production to the consuming market will be maintained.

Watch Blue Eagle Employers

"This constructive economic program can be advanced in an accelerated way if the people of the nation, individually and collectively, will do their part in a full and complete way.

"Merchants and manufacturers who have been given the Blue Eagle emblems should religiously discharge their obligation. There should be no attempt to evade the performance of their duty or to modify the code of fair practice they entered into with the Government.

"The people in every community should be alive to the situation and through the activities of their community and collective influence they should see to it that the terms upon which the Blue Eagle was granted are fully met.

Wholehearted Support of Labor

"May I make a personal appeal to labor everywhere and to the leaders of labor to join wholeheartedly in this industrial recovery program.

"It means much to working men and women. Those who are employed ought to benefit by reduction in hours and increase in wages. Those who are unemployed ought to share fully in the creation of new work opportunities through the reduction in hours provided for in the industrial codes of fair practice.

"The achievement of the expressed purpose of the Industrial Recovery Act depends upon that all associated with industry should share in the benefits which follow the application of industrial codes.

Greater Opportunity

"Furthermore, the opportunity for the enjoyment of a great degree of economic security than we have ever known will be unfolded through the series of interpretations and applications of the industrial recovery codes which are instituted by taking place.

"We have much to gain in this great campaign and for that reason it must have the full support and assistance without stint or reservation.

"The hour is here and the time is opportune for the people of the nation to render a great public service and achieve a great national purpose. Labor is expected to do its part.

"The nation is enlisting men and women in a great drive against unemployment and human suffering.

"The President of the United States is calling for action and service.

"Let the leadership of labor and press on until unemployment is overcome. We can and shall do it. We cannot fail. We must win in this great fight for the restoration of full time and purposes of the Industrial Recovery Act."

PAPER MAKERS' UNION BOOSTS MEMBERSHIP

Albany, N. Y.—Editor Arthur Huggins has been doing some traveling, as he discloses in the September issue of Paper Makers' Journal, official organ of the International Brotherhood of Paper Makers. Also he has been doing some observing, as result of which he suggests a code for labor organizers, who, he finds, have been wrestling overtime and accomplishing things.

Among his citations are the work of Vice President Barry, who organized strong unions in the Buffalo and Continental mills at Rumford, Me., within a short time, besides fixing up some locals at Livermore Falls, Bucksport and other places.

Then there is Organizer D'Aust, who organized the Gatineau mill 100 per cent at Hull and Ottawa, Canada, slipped over into the Manchester and organized the Dalhousie mill, then on to Madawaska to organize a new local and help build up the Border local at the same time, and still is going strong at Three Rivers.

A dozen other officials, Editor Huggins cites, handled some piece of work they have formed, old locals reorganized or built up in Wisconsin, Michigan, California, Washington, Alabama, Virginia and other states.

Editor Huggins has some commendations with a welcome to the new unions and membership gained.

"Only through the maintenance of continuous membership can they realize the full benefits of collective bargaining that type of employer whose sole desire is to keep his employes in a non-effective bargaining features afforded workers by the Recovery Act will prove when intelligently and fairly applied through representatives of their own choosing.

"Let no one deceive automobile workers by misrepresentation or false statements.

"Their right to organize has been clearly established.

"The decision as to whether they will avail themselves of the right to organize rests entirely with the automobile workers.

"The appeal to them to unite with labor, to organize, to bargain collectively, and we assure them that the American Federation of Labor will protect them in the exercise of their right to organize into trade unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor."

TAMPA CIGARMAKERS ENROLL IN A. F. OF L.

Tampa, Fla.—Resoration of the 1920 wage scale is the goal set for Tampa cigarmakers by George L. Googe, southern representative of the American Federation of Labor, at a mass meeting in a local theater here.

On a call for a show of hands, made by Wendell C. Heaton, State Federation of Labor head who presided, practically the entire audience signified its desire to affiliate with the Federation. Enthusiasm was boundless Tuesday night in the guidance of W. E. Sullivan, president of the Central Trades and Labor Council.

Mr. Googe was introduced by James H. Whitley, editor of the Florida Labor Advocate. He told the cigarmakers that Tampa was the birthplace and president of the American Federation of Labor, to assist them in organizing and to promise them assistance from Washington if the manufacturers refused to recognize their union.

Mr. Googe lashed in scathing terms the starvation wages imposed upon the cigarmakers by Tampa sweatshop employers for many years. He declared that Tampa manufacturers realized that their greatest interest lies in paying better wages, which mean better conditions for all.

He said the manufacturers could no longer use the threat of moving their factories from Tampa since there was no place in the United States where they could escape the provisions of the National Industrial Recovery Act and the fair competition codes decreed under it by President Roosevelt.

Another speaker was Morris M. Givens, county solicitor, who was a guest at the meeting. He promised to maintain an official interest in the cause of the workers and urged their cooperation and unity in demanding better wages and working conditions.

Worcester Textile Union Starts; Over 350 Members

Worcester, Mass.—The United Textile Workers of America organized a union here of over 350 members, all of whom are employes of the Bell Company.

Most of the members are men, but, according to officials, the roster will be greatly increased by women workers, more than 100 already having signed applications. It is believed that within a few weeks the plant will be 100 per cent organized and will rank with the organizations having the largest membership in the local labor movement.

Denver Garment Company Returns to Union Fold

Denver, Colo.—Belligerent protest by the employes of the I. Rude Progressive Wholesale Tailors against their low wages resulted in the concern's granting a 20 per cent pay increase.

Of equal importance was the declaration by the officials of the company that the concern is going to sign up again with the Garment Workers' Union and live under the agreement with which they operated successfully until more than a year ago.

Mrs. May Graham, business representative of the Garment Workers' Local Union No. 130, requested the headquarters of the United Garment Workers of America to send a representative here to take up the matter with the company.

Painters Union Cuts Dues In Organization Campaign

Lafayette, Ind.—The general executive board of the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers of America has reduced the initiation fee as an aid to more effectively organizing the workers so that full advantage can be taken of the collective bargaining provisions of the National Industrial Recovery Act. The text of the board's decision, as sent to unions throughout the country, follows:

"That each and every local union and district council of our brotherhood be immediately ordered and instructed to inaugurate an intensive and continuous organizing campaign until January 1, 1934, at a maximum initiation fee of $5.

This order was signed and sent out by Clarence E. Swick, general secretary-treasurer.

AUTOMOBILE WORKERS EAGER FOR TRADE UNION BENEFITS

Flint, Mich.—J. F. Anderson, international representative of the American Federation of Labor, is highly enthusiastic over his success in persuading employees of the Flint automobile factories to join the United Automobile Workers of America, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor. Under the Anderson guidance charters have been granted to workers in the Chevrolet, Buick, A. C. Spark Plug and Fisher Body plants.

In an address before the Flint Federation of Labor outlining his experiences in organizing the auto workers, Mr. Anderson said it has not been necessary to call a single strike because hand methods to attract the employees. They are responding to the call in groups of one to a dozen to the Labor Temple daily for the purpose of joining up. In his organization work, Mr. Anderson stresses the achievements of the American Federation of Labor in behalf of many improvements which have been accomplished through the efforts of the organized workers.

Shoe Workers' Union Enrolls Thousands of New Members

Boston, Mass.—Denouncing as malicious statements evidently by dual unions that the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union is not reflecting the trade union movement throughout the United States, officials of the union state that thousands of membership cards have been issued in the past six months to workers in Massachusetts, Illinois, Missouri, Minnesota, Maryland, Ohio, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

Workers for 15 new locals have been granted and applications are flowing in faster than they can be taken care of and the result of the work of the organizing staff which has been enlarged to take care of the demands of shoe workers for organization all over the country.

Bakers Are Enthusiastic Over Increased Minimum Scale

Chicago.—From Lynn, Mass., in the East, to Los Angeles on the Pacific Coast; from Milwaukee on the Great Lakes to Birmingham in the Deep Southern South, reports of successful organizing and membership drives are pouring in here to headquarters of the Bakery and Confectionery Workers' International Union of America.

Ten new shops have been organized in a brief period and 19 locals report large membership gains, among the Angeles, Lincoln, Neb., Clinton, Ia., Oakland and San Francisco, Calif., and Birmingham, Ala., furnish the banner reports.

1,300 Pulp and Sulphite Workers Join One Union

Rumford, Me.—Over 1,300 pulp and sulphite workers have become active members of the Paper Mill, Pulp and Sulphite Workers' Union, according to the report of Harry U. Smith, A. F. of L. international organizer for the union. He adds that a good start has been made on the employes of the Continental Bag Company and it is believed that most of them will affiliate with the union in the near future.

"It seems that at times to see the big crowds out at the meetings," Mr. Sullivan said, "and conditions are going to the dogs if we don't get busy. Such is not the case. Our membership drive conducted by the union.

A standard schedule of working hours and wages of the National Labor Board, being of all shops as well as an equal schedule of prices is now in effect, placing the barbers' trade at an enviable point in the list of those who have negotiated with the demands of the National Recovery Administration at Washington.

The thorough organization of the city, which has eliminated cut-throat competition of long standing in the trade, is largely due to the untiring efforts of Thomas Chapman, secretary of the local.

Complete Support of Recovery Act To Provide Work and Wages for Idle Millions Urged by President Green

Drastic Reduction In Hours Necessary to Abolish Unemployment, Together With Pay Increases So That Purchasing Power of Workers Already Employed Will Not Be Reduced—Labor Is Summoned to Make Recovery Program A Success and See That Blue Eagle Employers Obey the Codes.

Michigan Attorney General Condemns Company Unions and "Open Shop" Policy

Lansing, Mich.—The soft pedal which newspapers generally placed upon the recent declaration of Patrick H. O'Brien, Attorney General of Michigan, in favor of unionization, collective bargaining, the notorious open shop and company unions is sufficient evidence that organized labor should pin what he said in a proclamation to the largest mirror.

Mr. O'Brien made his attack on the company unions shown in a recent telegram to President Roosevelt in connection with the company unions and open shop provision proposed by antiunion employers for certain fair competition codes.

"The National Recovery Act," Mr. O'Brien told the President, "guarantees the right of collective bargaining and fairly construed leaves no room for any

declaration in any code that might be interpreted as an encouragement either to company unions or to the open shop. I hope you will take a stand on this matter that will make it plain to the automotive, the steel and the mining industries and to every other industrial activity, that organized labor must be fully and frankly recognized in the new deal, that it must have a definite voice in our problems the brains of the labor movement.

"The captains of industry for the most part have long and always favor the open shop opposed any such position and they would, if they dared, be against your recovery program. In this crucial hour you have the power to write a new magna carta for labor. The common people will back you to the limit."

INDIA TIRE AND RUBBER COMPANY GOES UNION SHOP

Akron, Ohio.—The campaign recently inaugurated by the Summit County Central Labor Union to organize the workers in the factories of Akron and vicinity has met with pronounced success.

The most recent acquisition to the union roll is the India Tire and Rubber Company, located at Mogadore, a suburb of Akron. After a number of conferences between the officials of the company and those of the Central Labor Union the management of the plant granted a 10 per cent increase in wages and told their employees they were perfectly free to join the Rubber Workers' Union, which most of them did.

Organized labor representatives say that this is not the first step which the company has made to better the condition of its employees. A year ago a wage increase of 20 per cent was made to effect a previous cut and for over three months the company has been operating on a six-hour day with the average wage at $5 hours a week.

Officials of the Central Labor Union urgently recommend that union members everywhere purchase India Tire and Rubber Company tires which, it is said, are the highest grade available on the market.

CONVENTIONS CALLED BY AFL DEPARTMENTS

Washington.—James O'Connell, president, and John P. Frey, secretary-treasurer, issued the call for the twenty-fifth biennial convention of the Metal Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor to convene in Washington on September 25. The convention will be held in the Willard Hotel.

The twenty-seventh annual convention of the Building Trades Department will open in Washington on September 27, according to the call issued by M. J. McDonough, president of the department. The convention will be held at the Hotel Washington.

The Executive Board of the Union Label Trades Department issued the call for the twenty-third annual convention of the department to convene in Washington on September 18. The convention will be held in the Willard Hotel.

The call was signed by the Executive Board of the department, consisting of: G. W. Perkins, president; John A. Manning, secretary-treasurer; Matthew Woll, first vice president; Joseph Obergfell, second vice president; A. J. Myrup, third vice president; Charles P. Howard, fourth vice president, and John J. Mara, fifth vice president.